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**ANNUAL AUDITED REPORT FORM X-17A-5** PART III

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#### **FACING PAGE**

Information Required of Brokers and Dealers Pursuant to Section 17 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 and Rule 17a-5 Thereunder

REPORT FOR THE PERIOD BEG	31NNING 01/01/	18	AND EN	$DING_{12}$	/31/18	
		MM/DD/Y	Y		MM/D	D/YY
	A. REGISTR	ANT IDEN	TIFICATION			
NAME OF BROKER-DEALER: F	Parkland Secu	urities, LL	С		OFFIC	IAL USE ONLY
ADDRESS OF PRINCIPAL PLAC	E OF BUSINESS:	(Do not use	P.O. Box No.)		FII	RM I.D. NO.
300 Parkland Pla	nza					
		(No. and Stre	eet)			
Ann Arbor		MI			48103	
(City)	_	(Stat	e)		(Zip Code)	
NAME AND TELEPHONE NUMI	BER OF PERSON	TO CONTAC	CT IN REGARD TO 734-663-161		PORT	
					(Area Code –	Telephone Number
•	B. ACCOUNT	ANT IDE	NTIFICATION			
	73.773.4.3.777					
INDEPENDENT PUBLIC ACCOU	JNTANT whose of	oinion is cont	ained in this Report	* .		
RSM US LLP						
	•	•	te last, first, middle nan	1e)		
One South Wacker D	r. Suite 800 C	Chicago		IL		60606
(Address)	(0	City)		(State)		(Zip Code)
CHECK ONE:						
Certified Public Acc	ountant					
Public Accountant						
Accountant not resid	ent in United State	es or any of it	s possessions.			
	FOR C	OFFICIAL L	ISE ONLY			

\*Claims for exemption from the requirement that the annual report be covered by the opinion of an independent public accountant must be supported by a statement of facts and circumstances relied on as the basis for the exemption. See Section 240.17a-5(e)(2)

SEC 1410 (11-05)

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## OATH OR AFFIRMATION

I, Brandon Rydell	, swear (or affirm) that, to the best of
my knowledge and belief the accompany Parkland Securities, LLC	ying financial statement and supporting schedules pertaining to the firm of
of December 31	, 20 18 , are true and correct. I further swear (or affirm) that
neither the company nor any partner, p	roprietor, principal officer or director has any proprietary interest in any account
classified solely as that of a customer, e	
WHATELOW .	
	W W
	Signature
	Vice President
1 00 11	Title
Notary Public  This report ** contains (check all applic  (a) Facing Page.	KAREN L CARROLL  Notary Public - State of Michigan County of Livingston My Commission Expires Jan A 2025 Cable boxes: Acting in the County of Michigan
(a) Facing Fage.  (b) Statement of Financial Condition	on.
(c) Statement of Income (Loss) or,	If there is other comprehensive income in the period(s) presented, a Statement defined in §210.1-02 of Regulation S-X).
(d) Statement of Changes in Finance	
	holders' Equity or Partners' or Sole Proprietors' Capital.
	ities Subordinated to Claims of Creditors.
(g) Computation of Net Capital.  (h) Computation for Determination	of Reserve Requirements Pursuant to Rule 15c3-3.
	ssession or Control Requirements Under Rule 15c3-3.
(j) A Reconciliation, including app	ropriate explanation of the Computation of Net Capital Under Rule 15c3-1 and the
	of the Reserve Requirements Under Exhibit A of Rule 15c3-3.
(k) A Reconciliation between the a consolidation.	udited and unaudited Statements of Financial Condition with respect to methods of
(l) An Oath or Affirmation.	
(m) A copy of the SIPC Supplemen	
(ii) A report describing any material	inadequacies found to exist or found to have existed since the date of the previous audi

<sup>\*\*</sup>For conditions of confidential treatment of certain portions of this filing, see section 240.17a-5(e)(3).

# Parkland Securities, LLC Index December 31, 2018

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**RSM US LLP** 

## Report of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm

To the Board of Directors and Member Parkland Securities, LLC

**Opinion on the Financial Statements** 

We have audited the accompanying statement of financial condition of Parkland Securities, LLC (the Company) as of December 31, 2018, and the related statements of income, changes in member's equity and cash flows for the year then ended, and the related notes to the financial statements (collectively, the financial statements). In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Company as of December 31, 2018, and the results of its operations and its cash flows for the year then ended in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

**Basis for Opinion** 

These financial statements are the responsibility of the Company's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the Company's financial statements based on our audit. We are a public accounting firm registered with the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States) (PCAOB) and are required to be independent with respect to the Company in accordance with U.S. federal securities laws and the applicable rules and regulations of the Securities and Exchange Commission and the PCAOB.

We conducted our audit in accordance with the standards of the PCAOB. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement, whether due to error or fraud. The Company is not required to have, nor were we engaged to perform, an audit of its internal control over financial reporting. As part of our audit we are required to obtain an understanding of internal control over financial reporting but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Company's internal control over financial reporting. Accordingly, we express no such opinion.

Our audit included performing procedures to assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to error or fraud, and performing procedures that respond to those risks. Such procedures included examining, on a test basis, evidence regarding the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. Our audit also included evaluating the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements. We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion.

Supplemental Information

The supplementary information contained in Schedules I and II (the Supplemental Information) has been subjected to audit procedures performed in conjunction with the audit of the Company's financial statements. The Supplemental Information is the responsibility of the Company's management. Our audit procedures included determining whether the Supplemental Information reconciles to the financial statements or the underlying accounting and other records, as applicable, and performing procedures to test the completeness and accuracy of the information presented in the Supplemental Information. In forming our opinion on the Supplemental Information, we evaluated whether the Supplemental Information, including its form and content, is presented in conformity with 17 C.F.R. § 240.17a-5. In our opinion, the supplementary information contained in Schedules I and II is fairly stated, in all material respects, in relation to the financial statements as a whole.

RSM US LLP

We have served as the Company's auditor since 2017.

Chicago, Illinois February 28, 2019

## Parkland Securities, LLC Statement of Financial Condition December 31, 2018

Assets	
Cash and cash equivalents	\$5,682,320
Restricted cash and restricted cash equivalents	85,030
Commissions receivable	1,709,650
Receivable from clearing broker	61,062
Interest receivable	21,006
Receivable from representatives	31,703
Receivable from affiliates	588
Other receivables	117,242
Fixed assets, net of accumulated depreciation	21,299
Other assets	792,372
Total assets	\$8,522,272
Liabilities and Member's Equity	
Commissions payable	\$1,838,373
Management fees payable	125,707
Accounts payable and other liabilities	1,026,727_
Total liabilities	2,990,807
Member's equity	
Member's contributions	1,250,000
Retained earnings	4,281,465
Total as analysis and a south	F F04 40F
Total member's equity	5,531,465
Total liabilities and mambarla aquity	<b># 0 E00 070</b>
Total liabilities and member's equity	\$8,522,272

## Parkland Securities, LLC Statement of Income Year Ended December 31, 2018

Revenues	
Commissions	\$44,004,344
Representative fees	1,600,679
Interest	185,046
Account fees and other charges	174,475
Sponsorship revenues	323,422
Other revenues	268,451
Total revenues	46,556,417
Expenses	
Commission expense	37,984,448
Management fee expense	3,839,260
Litigation and legal	232,812
Regulatory and licensing	189,273
Clearing and brokerage	310,989
Computer support and software	532,194
Other expenses	1,372,828
Total expenses	44,461,804
Net income	\$ 2,094,613

## Parkland Securities, LLC Statement of Changes in Member's Equity Year Ended December 31, 2018

	Member's Contributions	Retained Earnings	Total
Balances, January 1, 2018	\$1,250,000	\$3,640,722	\$4,890,722
Net income		2,094,613	2,094,613
Distributions		(1,453,870)	(1,453,870)
Balances, December 31, 2018	\$1,250,000	\$4,281,465	\$5,531,465

## Parkland Securities, LLC Statement of Cash Flows Year Ended December 31, 2018

Net income \$2,094,613  Adjustments to reconcile net income to net cash provided by operating activities  Depreciation expense 11,876  Loss on asset write off 4,694  Changes in assets and liabilities  Increase in receivable from clearing broker (1,955)  Decrease in commissions receivable 230,055  Decrease in representative fees receivable (9,490)  Decrease in interest receivable (9,490)  Decrease in other receivables (9,490)  Decrease in other receivables (9,490)  Decrease in other assets (22,134)  Decrease in ommissions payable (49,931)  Increase in management fees payable (49,931)  Increase in accounts payable and accrued expenses 48,629  Net cash provided by operating activities 2,528,348   Cash flows from financing activities  Distributions paid to members (1,432,245)  Net increase in cash, restricted cash, and cash equivalents 1,096,103  Cash, restricted cash and cash equivalents, beginning of year 4,671,247  Cash, restricted cash and cash equivalents, end of year \$5,767,350  Supplemental disclosure of cash flow information  Payment of prior year distribution payable \$21,403  Interest paid \$8,939  Distribution payable as of December 31, 2018 * \$43,028	Cash flows from operating activities	
operating activities Depreciation expense 11,876 Loss on asset write off 4,694 Changes in assets and liabilities Increase in receivable from clearing broker (1,955) Decrease in commissions receivable 230,055 Decrease in representative fees receivable 142,380 Increase in interest receivable (9,490) Decrease in receivables 1,008 Decrease in receivable from affiliates 676 Decrease in other assets 22,134 Decrease in other assets 22,134 Decrease in commissions payable (49,931) Increase in management fees payable 33,659 Increase in accounts payable and accrued expenses 48,629  Net cash provided by operating activities Distributions paid to members (1,432,245)  Ret increase in cash, restricted cash, and cash equivalents 1,096,103  Cash, restricted cash and cash equivalents, beginning of year 4,671,247  Cash, restricted cash and cash equivalents, end of year \$5,767,350  Supplemental disclosure of cash flow information Payment of prior year distribution payable \$8,939	Net income	\$2,094,613
Depreciation expense 11,876 Loss on asset write off 4,694 Changes in assets and liabilities Increase in receivable from clearing broker (1,955) Decrease in commissions receivable 230,055 Decrease in representative fees receivable 142,380 Increase in interest receivable (9,490) Decrease in other receivables 1,008 Decrease in other receivables 1,008 Decrease in receivable from affiliates 676 Decrease in other assets 22,134 Decrease in commissions payable (49,931) Increase in management fees payable 33,659 Increase in accounts payable and accrued expenses 48,629  Net cash provided by operating activities 2,528,348  Cash flows from financing activities Distributions paid to members (1,432,245)  Net increase in cash, restricted cash, and cash equivalents 1,096,103  Cash, restricted cash and cash equivalents, beginning of year 4,671,247  Cash, restricted cash and cash equivalents, end of year \$5,767,350  Supplemental disclosure of cash flow information Payment of prior year distribution payable \$21,403  Interest paid \$8,939	Adjustments to reconcile net income to net cash provided by	
Loss on asset write off Changes in assets and liabilities Increase in receivable from clearing broker Decrease in commissions receivable Decrease in representative fees receivable 142,380 Increase in interest receivable Decrease in other receivables 1,008 Decrease in other receivables 1,008 Decrease in receivable from affiliates 676 Decrease in other assets 22,134 Decrease in commissions payable Increase in management fees payable Increase in accounts payable and accrued expenses Net cash provided by operating activities  Cash flows from financing activities Distributions paid to members (1,432,245)  Net increase in cash, restricted cash, and cash equivalents Cash, restricted cash and cash equivalents, beginning of year  4,671,247  Cash, restricted cash and cash equivalents, end of year  \$5,767,350  Supplemental disclosure of cash flow information Payment of prior year distribution payable  \$8,939	operating activities	
Changes in assets and liabilities Increase in receivable from clearing broker Decrease in commissions receivable Decrease in representative fees receivable Increase in interest receivable Operate in interest receivable Decrease in receivables Decrease in receivable from affiliates Decrease in receivable from affiliates Decrease in other assets Decrease in commissions payable Operate in commissions payable Operate in accounts payable Increase in accounts payable and accrued expenses  Net cash provided by operating activities Distributions paid to members  Cash flows from financing activities Distributions paid to members  Net increase in cash, restricted cash, and cash equivalents  Cash, restricted cash and cash equivalents, beginning of year  4,671,247  Cash, restricted cash and cash equivalents, end of year  \$5,767,350  Supplemental disclosure of cash flow information Payment of prior year distribution payable \$2,939  Interest paid	Depreciation expense	11,876
Increase in receivable from clearing broker  Decrease in commissions receivable  Decrease in representative fees receivable  Increase in interest receivable  Increase in interest receivable  Increase in other receivables  Decrease in receivable from affiliates  Decrease in commissions payable  Decrease in commissions payable  Increase in management fees payable  Increase in accounts payable and accrued expenses  Net cash provided by operating activities  Cash flows from financing activities  Distributions paid to members  Net increase in cash, restricted cash, and cash equivalents  Cash, restricted cash and cash equivalents, beginning of year  4,671,247  Cash, restricted cash and cash equivalents, end of year  Supplemental disclosure of cash flow information  Payment of prior year distribution payable  \$8,939	Loss on asset write off	4,694
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Increase in interest receivable Decrease in other receivables Decrease in receivable from affiliates Decrease in receivable from affiliates Decrease in other assets Decrease in commissions payable Increase in management fees payable Increase in accounts payable and accrued expenses  Net cash provided by operating activities  Cash flows from financing activities Distributions paid to members  Net increase in cash, restricted cash, and cash equivalents  Cash, restricted cash and cash equivalents, beginning of year  4,671,247  Cash, restricted cash and cash equivalents, end of year  \$5,767,350  Supplemental disclosure of cash flow information Payment of prior year distribution payable  \$8,939	Decrease in commissions receivable	230,055
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Decrease in other assets Decrease in commissions payable Increase in management fees payable Increase in accounts payable and accrued expenses  Net cash provided by operating activities  Cash flows from financing activities Distributions paid to members  (1,432,245)  Net increase in cash, restricted cash, and cash equivalents  Cash, restricted cash and cash equivalents, beginning of year  Cash, restricted cash and cash equivalents, end of year  \$5,767,350  Supplemental disclosure of cash flow information Payment of prior year distribution payable  \$8,939	Decrease in other receivables	1,008
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Increase in management fees payable Increase in accounts payable and accrued expenses  Net cash provided by operating activities  Cash flows from financing activities Distributions paid to members  Net increase in cash, restricted cash, and cash equivalents  Net increase in cash equivalents, beginning of year  Cash, restricted cash and cash equivalents, end of year  \$5,767,350  Supplemental disclosure of cash flow information Payment of prior year distribution payable  \$8,939  Interest paid	Decrease in other assets	22,134
Increase in accounts payable and accrued expenses 48,629  Net cash provided by operating activities 2,528,348  Cash flows from financing activities Distributions paid to members (1,432,245)  Net increase in cash, restricted cash, and cash equivalents 1,096,103  Cash, restricted cash and cash equivalents, beginning of year 4,671,247  Cash, restricted cash and cash equivalents, end of year \$5,767,350  Supplemental disclosure of cash flow information Payment of prior year distribution payable \$21,403  Interest paid \$8,939	Decrease in commissions payable	(49,931)
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Cash flows from financing activities Distributions paid to members  (1,432,245)  Net increase in cash, restricted cash, and cash equivalents  Cash, restricted cash and cash equivalents, beginning of year  Cash, restricted cash and cash equivalents, end of year  \$5,767,350  Supplemental disclosure of cash flow information Payment of prior year distribution payable  \$21,403  Interest paid	Increase in accounts payable and accrued expenses	48,629
Net increase in cash, restricted cash, and cash equivalents  Cash, restricted cash and cash equivalents, beginning of year  Cash, restricted cash and cash equivalents, end of year  Supplemental disclosure of cash flow information  Payment of prior year distribution payable  \$21,403	Net cash provided by operating activities	2,528,348
Net increase in cash, restricted cash, and cash equivalents  Cash, restricted cash and cash equivalents, beginning of year  Cash, restricted cash and cash equivalents, end of year  Supplemental disclosure of cash flow information  Payment of prior year distribution payable  \$21,403	Cash flows from financing activities	
Cash, restricted cash and cash equivalents, beginning of year 4,671,247  Cash, restricted cash and cash equivalents, end of year \$5,767,350  Supplemental disclosure of cash flow information Payment of prior year distribution payable \$21,403  Interest paid \$8,939	<u> </u>	(1,432,245)
Cash, restricted cash and cash equivalents, end of year \$5,767,350  Supplemental disclosure of cash flow information Payment of prior year distribution payable \$21,403  Interest paid \$8,939	Net increase in cash, restricted cash, and cash equivalents	1,096,103
Supplemental disclosure of cash flow information Payment of prior year distribution payable \$21,403  Interest paid \$8,939	Cash, restricted cash and cash equivalents, beginning of year	4,671,247
Payment of prior year distribution payable \$21,403  Interest paid \$8,939	Cash, restricted cash and cash equivalents, end of year	\$5,767,350
Interest paid \$8,939	Supplemental disclosure of cash flow information	
•	Payment of prior year distribution payable	\$21,403
Distribution payable as of December 31, 2018 * \$43,028	Interest paid	\$8,939
	Distribution payable as of December 31, 2018 *	\$43,028

<sup>\*</sup> Distribution payable amounts are included in accounts payable and other liabilities on the statement of financial condition but excluded from the change in accounts payable and other liabilities.

## 1. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

## **Organization and Nature of Business**

Parkland Securities, LLC (the "Company") is a registered broker-dealer subject to the rules and regulations of the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission (the "SEC") and is a member of the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority, Inc. ("FINRA"). The Company is a limited liability company organized under the laws of the State of Delaware.

The Company offers to its customers various investment products, including mutual funds, equity and fixed income securities, option contracts, variable life insurance policies, variable annuity contracts, fixed and index annuities, and alternative investments such as Internal Revenue Code §1031 exchange programs, real estate investment trusts, and oil and gas programs. The Company offers these products through independent contractor registered representatives who operate independent branch offices located throughout the United States of America and its territories.

The Company operates pursuant to Exchange Act Rule 15c3-3(k)(2)(i) and 15c3-3(k)(2)(ii), clearing transactions on a fully disclosed basis through its clearing firm, National Financial Services LLC ("NFS"), and on an application-way basis with registered investment companies, insurance and annuity providers, and other product offerings. Customer accounts held directly at a product issuer for which the Company is listed as the broker-dealer of record are commonly referred to as application-way accounts, sometimes also known as "check and application," "direct application," and "subscription-way" accounts. The Company does not hold customer funds or safeguard customer securities.

## **Basis of Presentation**

The accompanying financial statements have been prepared in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America ("GAAP").

#### **Use of Estimates**

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with GAAP requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets, liabilities and disclosures at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

#### **Recent Accounting Pronouncements**

Accounting Standards Update ("ASU") No. 2016-02, *Leases, Topic 842* and subsequent updates No. 2018-01 and 2018-11 (together, Accounting Standards Codification Topic 842) supersedes Accounting Standards Codification ("ASC") Topic 840 *Leases,* and became effective for annual reporting periods beginning after December 15, 2018. ASC Topic 842 requires a modified retrospective approach to adoption for leases that exist or are entered into on or after the beginning of the earliest period in the financial statements. The Company will adopt this guidance effective as of January 1, 2019 using this approach.

After reviewing ASC Topic 842, the Company has determined that it does not have any lease assets or liabilities and that the accounting standard updates should not have an impact on the financial reporting of the Company, nor does the Company expect any significant financial statement impact in subsequent periods.

In November 2016, the FASB issued ASU 2016-18, Statement of Cash Flows (Topic 230): Restricted Cash ("ASU 2016-18"), which provides guidance on the presentation of restricted cash and restricted

cash equivalents on the statement of cash flows. ASU 2016-18 became effective for the Company as of January 1, 2018, with retrospective application. The Company maintains restricted cash deposits and cash segregated in a special bank account for the exclusive benefit of customers and reserve requirements under Rule 15c3-3 of the SEC. These accounts are shown as restricted cash and restricted cash equivalents on the statement of financial condition and is combined with cash, restricted cash, and cash equivalents on the statement of cash flows.

## Cash, Cash Equivalents, and Restricted Cash

The Company's cash and cash equivalents consist of funds on deposit primarily in corporate checking accounts and money market funds at financial institutions (Note 5). Cash equivalents include assets easily convertible to cash with original maturities of less than 90 days. Money market funds are stated at cost, which approximates fair value.

Restricted cash and restricted cash equivalents represent amounts on deposit at financial institutions that are legally restricted due to contract terms with NFS, other financial institutions, or arising from applicable SEC rules and regulations. Included on the statement of financial condition is a restricted cash deposit for margin requirements at NFS in the amount of \$75,000, cash balances on deposit with other financial institutions in the amount of \$10,000, and \$30 on deposit at a financial institution that are segregated for special bank accounts for the exclusive benefit of customers and reserve requirements under Exchange Act Rule 15c3-3.

Cash and cash equivalents	\$5,682,320
Restricted cash	85,030
Total cash, restricted cash and cash equivalents	
shown in the statement of cash flows	\$5,767,350

## **Commissions Receivable and Commissions Payable**

Commissions receivable represent the dealer concessions, including 12b-1 fees, owed to the Company from registered investment companies, insurance and annuity companies, and other product offerings for the solicitation or sale of their investments and products to customers.

Commissions payable are the amounts owed to registered representatives of the Company for their services, sales commissions, and 12b-1 fees earned related to customer transactions.

## Receivable from Clearing Broker

Receivable from clearing broker is the net amounts owed from NFS to the Company for dealer concessions, markups on riskless securities transactions, customer account fees, and other charges. The receivable is recorded net of any related liabilities to the clearing firm on the accompanying statement of financial condition in accordance with Financial Accounting Standards Board ("FASB"), Accounting Standards Codification ("ASC") 210, Balance Sheet Offsetting.

Interest due to the Company from NFS is recorded in interest receivable.

## Receivable from Representatives

Registered representative affiliation fees, commission charge backs, and other costs that are the responsibility of registered representatives are offset against amounts owed to registered representatives for their commission payables. If the balance of the debits owed to the Company

exceed the amount owed to the registered representative then the net balance owed to the Company is recorded as a receivable.

Registered representatives are responsible for their registration and licensing costs which are collected by the Company on their behalf and submitted to the FINRA Central Registration Depository. The amounts owed from the registered representatives that are not offset against their commissions for these registration and licensing costs are also included in receivables from representatives.

#### Other Receivables

Other receivables include amounts relating to sponsorship revenues, promissory notes ("Notes"), and trade receivables.

The Company makes periodic Notes to associated persons. These Notes typically have stated interest rates above the prime rate and have maturities of five years or less. The terms of the Notes include provisions to accelerate the maturity date if the associated person ceases to be associated with the Company. Upon acceleration of the maturity the remaining principal balance and any accrued interest becomes due within 30 days and includes the right to offset any compensation owed to the associated person. As of December 31, 2018, the outstanding principal balance of the Notes was \$75,138.

#### **Fixed Assets**

Fixed assets are stated at cost less accumulated depreciation. Depreciation is computed on the straight-line method over the estimated useful lives of the assets which range from 3 to 7 years. Maintenance and repairs of assets are expensed as incurred.

Fixed assets consisted of the following at December 31, 2018:

Office equipment	\$ 184,755
Less: Accumulated depreciation	(163,456)
Fixed assets, net of accumulated depreciation	\$ 21,299

#### Other Assets

Other assets consist of \$587,315 in prepaid expenses for payments to the Central Registration Depository and other vendors for licensing and registration costs, national and regional conference deposits, unamortized cost for errors and omissions insurance policy(ies), surety bond, and financial institution bond premiums. Prepaid expenses are expensed as incurred or amortized using the straight-line method over the policy or contract period.

Under certain circumstances, the Company provides financial support to contracted registered representatives by executing forgivable loans or signing bonuses. The forgivable loans have contract terms that require the registered representative to remain registered with the Company for a stated period typically ranging from 3 to 5 years and may contain provisions requiring yearly minimum production requirements. A portion of the loan principal balance is forgiven monthly or annually on anniversary dates of the loan and upon the satisfaction of any production requirements. The Company realizes the economic benefit over the passage of time and amortizes the costs using the straight-line method over the stated period.

Signing bonuses that contain contract terms which require the registered representative to remain associated with the Company for a certain period are amortized using the straight-line method over the stated period. Agreements that do not contain term provisions are expensed when incurred.

If the terms of the agreement are breached by the registered representative, the registered representative is responsible for the repayment of any balances to the Company according to the terms of the agreement. For a forgivable loan, the registered representative is required to make payment of the principal and accrued interest amounts outstanding as of the prior anniversary date. For a signing bonus, the registered representative may be liable for the entire amount of the signing bonus or a prorated amount based on the time remaining under the agreement.

As of December 31, 2018, the unamortized balance for forgivable loans and signing bonuses was \$204,440 and is reflected in other assets.

## **Accounts Payable and Other Liabilities**

Liabilities of the Company for general operating expenses owed to third parties, various states for assessments and member withholdings (Note 2), loss contingencies (Note 4), and unearned revenues are presented in accounts payable and other liabilities in the statement of financial condition.

Unearned revenues are related to sponsorship revenues and errors and omission insurance premium payments from registered representatives for which the performance obligation has not been satisfied. Payments that are collected in advance are recognized when earned or over the life of the policy.

#### Fair Value Measurement

The Company's financial assets and liabilities are carried at fair value or contracted amounts which approximate fair value. The assets and liabilities in the statement of financial condition are categorized based upon the level of judgment associated with the inputs used to measure their fair value. Hierarchical levels, defined by FASB ASC 820, *Fair Value Measurement*, and directly related to the amount of subjectivity associated with the inputs to fair valuation of these assets, are as follows:

- Level I Unadjusted quoted prices in an active accessible market to identical assets or liabilities.
- Level II Other inputs that are directly or indirectly observable in the marketplace. There are no financial assets or liabilities classified as Level II.
- Level III Unobservable inputs which are supported by little or no market activity. There are no financial assets or liabilities classified as Level III.

The Company's financial instruments consist primarily of cash and cash equivalents, accounts receivable, and accounts payable. The carrying values of these financial instruments approximate fair value because of the short-term nature of these instruments.

#### Revenue Recognition

The Company adopted FASB Accounting Standards Update ("ASU") No. 2014-09, *Revenue from Contracts with Customers, Topic 606* and subsequent updates on January 1, 2018 using the modified retrospective method, applied prospectively effective January 1, 2018 without revisions to prior

periods. The Company has identified its revenues that are within the scope of ASC Topic 606 and determined there is no material impact as a result of adopting ASC Topic 606. Consequently, no cumulative adjustments were recorded to retained earnings.

The Company entered into a Fully Disclosed Clearing Agreement ("Clearing Agreement") with NFS on August 4, 2011. The Company also has entered into various contracts ("Distribution Agreements") with life insurance companies, registered investment companies, and other investment providers. The Distribution Agreements and Clearing Agreement specify the terms and responsibilities of each party and commonly provide for certain indemnifications to the parties (Note 6). Distribution Agreements also include compensation schedules that disclose the compensation to be paid to the Company in return for the solicitation, distribution, and marketing of the investment provider's products and/or services.

#### Commissions

Commission revenues are generated by the sale of investments, life insurance and annuity products, as well as 12b-1 fees from customer security positions by the Company's registered representatives. The Company conducts transactions on a fully disclosed basis through its clearing firm or by effecting transactions on an application-way basis with product providers.

Revenues derived from customer sale transactions are recognized at the point of sale when the Company's performance obligation is satisfied or the trade date. For transactions involving the issuance of variable and traditional life insurance policies, or variable and traditional annuity contracts, the performance obligation is satisfied when the insurance company accepts the completed application from the customer. Subsequent point of sale transactions in variable insurance and variable annuity securities occurs on the trade date, and commission revenues are recognized accordingly. Insurance policies and annuity contracts are also subject to a free look provision which grants the customer a certain number of days after receiving the policy or contract to terminate the policy or contract and receive a penalty-free refund of the premiums paid. The free look provision typically contains terms ranging from 10 to 30 days for the customer to exercise the provision. The Company does not expect that a customer will exercise the free look provision and considers the likelihood to be remote as it occurs in a very small percentage of sales. Also due to the short term timing and likelihood of significant impact to the financial statements, the Company therefore considers the performance obligation satisfied at the point of sale.

Point of sale transactions for registered investment company shares, equity and debt securities listed on an exchange or over the counter, alternative investments, municipal securities, and other investments which includes transactions for option contracts, occur when the Company satisfies its performance obligation at the time the trade or sale is filled, or on the trade date.

The amount of commission revenues earned, and the transaction price for point of sale transactions, are determined as a percentage of the sale amount and vary depending upon the type of investment, commission break-points, and selected share class and/or investment options. The commission percentage is agreed upon between the Company and the product provider through Distribution and Marketing Agreements for application-way sale transactions. For customer securities transactions executed through the clearing firm, the amount of the commission or dealer concession for the transaction is determined by the applicable commission rate or mark-up charged to the customer by the Company.

The Company recognizes clearing and execution costs associated with point of sale transactions that are transacted with the clearing firm. The clearing firm assesses the costs to the Company in accordance with the agreed upon pricing in the Clearing Agreement, and the Company recognizes the expense when the performance obligation is satisfied which is included in clearing and brokerage expenses.

The Company also receives commissions in the form of 12b-1 fees. These fees are earned in accordance with the requirements of Rule 12b-1 under the Investment Company Act of 1940, typically for the distribution, marketing of the securities, and servicing customer accounts. The 12b-1 fees are earned over time and are determined as a percentage of the customer's average net assets in the security or investment. This variable consideration is constrained until the market value of the security or investment is determinable.

Commission revenues disaggregated by investment product category for 2018 were as follows:

Variable life and annuity commissions and 12b-1	\$19,391,732
Life, annuity, and index annuity	13,260,207
Mutual funds and 12b-1	9,317,674
Equity securities	357,224
Fixed income securities	146,742
Municipal securities and 529 plans	432,493
Alternative investment securities	945,139
Other	153,133
	\$44,004,344

## **Account fees and Other Charges**

Account fees and other charges in the statement of income are fees and other revenues earned from the Company's relationship with the clearing firm that are unrelated to customer trade executions and interest sharing agreements. These revenues are derived from direct customer account charges and other non-customer transactions. Revenues from direct customer account fees for mailing and shipping, account inactivity fees, and other account service charges are earned when the services are provided or when assessed to the customer.

## Representative Fees

Representative fees consist of monthly fixed amounts charged to registered representatives for being affiliated with the Company. The fees cover various costs and services the Company provides to registered representatives such as portfolio analysis, technology support, and the handling of errors and omissions insurance premiums. Registered representatives are charged for errors and omissions insurance upon their enrollment in the program and the revenues are recognized over the policy period. Registered representatives agree to the fees along with other expenses, indemnifications, and the requirements for being associated with the Company by executing an Associated Person Agreement. The revenues from the representative fees are recognized on an ongoing monthly basis as long as the registered representative remains registered with the Company.

#### Interest

The Company earns interest on its cash balances on deposit with financial institutions (Note 5) and from revenue sharing agreements. A majority of the interest income is earned on customer deposits in customer cash sweep options at NFS. NFS credits the Company interest as agreed upon in the

Clearing Agreement in which the Company is credited with a percentage of the interest that NFS earns on certain deposits, fully paid lending services and margin borrowings of customers introduced by the Company.

## **Sponsorship Revenues**

Sponsorship revenues are earned by providing investment product companies the opportunity to market their services and products to the Company's registered representatives. The sponsor participants are provided direct marketing to the Company's registered representatives and can also attend conferences and seminars that are hosted by the Company, Sigma Planning Corporation ("SPC"), an investment adviser registered with the SEC, and Sigma Financial Corporation ("SFC"), a broker-dealer registered with the SEC. SPC an SFC are both related parties. The Company offers multiple levels of marketing arrangements, with each level providing different benefits to the participants for the calendar year. A majority of the marketing arrangements are for a fixed amount per calendar year which are further characterized by different levels of benefits. Some participants elect a variable rate marketing agreement which is based upon a percentage of current year sales and may contain a minimum cost commitment. The benefits to the participants of the marketing agreement are realized throughout the year as the Company's obligations are completed. The Company recognizes the revenues on a monthly basis over the contract period, or on a quarterly basis in the case of variable commitments. Sponsorship payments received in advance of being earned are recorded as unearned revenues and subsequently recognized as revenue when the performance obligation is met. Unearned revenue balances for sponsorships as of January 1, 2018 and December 31, 2018 consisted of \$10,000 and \$10,000, respectively, of which the Company recognized the \$10,000 of prior year unearned revenues in 2018.

## **Other Revenues**

Other revenues include \$90,398 for license and registration processing fees for registered representatives, \$164,865 for software and subscription revenues charged to registered representatives, and \$13,188 in various other revenues the Company earns in the normal course of business. Other revenues derived from these sources are controlled through the Associated Persons Agreement at the then prevailing rates. Revenues are recognized for registration services when the process is completed by the Company and on a monthly basis for subscription services.

The balances for assets and liabilities related to contracts with customers as of January 1, 2018 and December 31, 2018 were as follow:

Contract Receivable	January 1, 2018	December 31, 2018
Commissions receivable net of related clearing expenses	\$1,960,848	\$1,735,813
Receivable for account fees and other charges	37,964	34,899
Receivable from representatives	174,083	31,703
Interest receivable	11,516	21,006
Receivable for sponsorship revenues	28,677	42,090
	\$2,213,088	\$1,865,511

#### **Expenses**

Commission expense is the amount that is due to registered representatives for their commissions earned on customer securities transactions, insurance contracts, and 12b-1 fees. The commission expense is calculated using a commission rate percentage multiplied by the qualifying dealer

concessions or applicable commission revenues. The commission rate percentage varies for each registered representative according to the agreed upon terms in the Associated Persons Agreement or other agreements. The Company accrues the commission expense when incurred in accordance with its revenues recognition policies for commission revenues.

Management expenses are costs incurred from the Company's relationship with B/D Ops, LLC ("BD Ops"), a related party, for services provided to the Company (Note 3).

Litigation and legal fees are expenses associated with arbitrations, mediations, litigation, and complaints that are brought against the Company by customers. These expenses relating to customer claims include arbitration filing fees, court filing fees, expert witness costs, attorney fees, estimates for losses, and actual losses (Note 4). Also included are expenses for general attorney fees for consulting services, industry research, and other engagements.

Regulatory and licensing expenses are amounts assessed to the Company by FINRA, state regulatory agencies, and the Securities Investor Protection Corporation for dues and costs associated with the securities industry.

Clearing and brokerage expenses are incurred for non-trade related transactions and trade execution services that are provided by NFS. Transactions not related to trade execution services that NFS provides to the Company include account maintenance, customer account custodial services, trade confirmations, and account statements. Technology and postage-related expenses charged to the Company by NFS are recorded in computer support and software expenses and other expenses, respectively.

The Company utilizes numerous software programs and related systems that are included in computer support and software. Various systems and related software are used by the Company and/or registered representatives for financial planning, asset allocation, customer account servicing, record-keeping, and compliance. The Company continuously assesses the technology requirements of its operations along with innovations in the financial industry. When implementing new technology systems or changes to existing ones, the cost of purchasing, subscribing to, implementing, and development can have a material impact on the financial statements. During the evaluation and planning process, management considers the benefits and ways to mitigate the financial impact to the Company.

Other expenses include interest expense of \$9,139 and expenses related to accounting, bad debt expenses, bank service charges, conferences, consultants not related to litigation or legal matters, depreciation, postage and freight, insurance including errors and omissions, fidelity bonds, amortized costs related to forgivable loans and signing bonuses for registered representatives, state assessments and fees for doing business in those states, and other expenses incurred in the normal course of business. Also included in other expenses are advertising costs of \$52,623 which are expensed when incurred.

## **Income Taxes**

The Company is organized as a limited liability company and has elected to be treated as a partnership for federal and state income tax purposes. Under such provisions, the Company is not subject to federal income tax. The Company's members are liable for the taxes, if any, on their distributive share of income.

FASB ASC 740, *Income Taxes*, requires the Company to evaluate any tax positions taken or expected to be taken in preparing the Company's tax returns to determine whether the tax positions are "more-likely-than-not" of being sustained "when challenged" or "when examined" by the applicable tax authority. Any tax positions that do not meet the more-likely-than-not threshold would be recorded as a tax benefit or expense and liability in the current year. Through December 31, 2018, management has determined there are no material uncertain income tax positions.

## 2. Member's Equity

The Company made periodic distributions to its members during 2018 in the aggregate amount of \$1,453,870 based on the cash balances, net capital, and net income of the Company. Distributions are recognized when declared and included in the statement of changes in member's equity.

Certain states require flow-through withholding of the member's distributive income due to the limited liability status. The Company makes payment to those states on behalf of the members in addition to any composite tax returns that the Company has elected to file. Of the aggregate amount of distributions to members, included are distributions totaling \$80,867 that were recorded for member withholdings. As of December 31, 2018, \$43,028 was payable and recorded in accounts payable and other liabilities in the statement of financial condition.

## 3. Related Party Transactions

The Company receives various services such as personnel including management, the use of telecommunications, office space, systems and equipment, and other general and administrative support from BD Ops, a company owned by the members of the Company.

BD Ops has separate written management services agreements with the Company, SFC, and SPC, all of which are related parties by common ownership. Under the agreement between BD Ops and the Company, BD Ops provides services to the Company and in return the Company pays a management fee expense to BD Ops for the services rendered.

The total management expenses earned by BD Ops are allocated among the Company, SFC, and SPC based on their pro-rata share of their combined cash receipts from dealer concessions, advisory and consulting revenues and their pro-rata share of their combined number of registered representatives and investment adviser representatives. For the year ended December 31, 2018, the Company recorded management expenses of \$3,839,260 in the statement of income and as of December 31, 2018, the Company accrued \$125,707 due to BD Ops in accordance with the management agreement.

SPC and BD Ops were subject to a Base Security Agreement with Sammons Securities, Inc. ("SSI") in which SPC and BD Ops were pledged as collateral to secure the payment and performance for a loan from SSI to one of its members. The loan was entered into by the parties using a promissory note to allow financing of the sale of the Company from SSI to the member and a trust under the control of the member. In the event of a default or acceleration of the indebtedness, and if not cured within the applicable cure or grace period, SSI possessed the right to the collateral. As of July 31, 2018, the promissory note was paid in full and the securitization has been released by SSI.

## 4. Commitments and Contingencies

The Company is subject to litigation, arbitrations, mediations, and regulatory actions in the ordinary course of its business. The Company has three pending claims that have been filed against the Company for alleged damages of approximately \$520,000 in total relating to the execution of securities transactions.

Management with the assistance of legal counsel evaluates the claims on an ongoing basis as information becomes available. In accordance with FASB ASC 450, *Loss Contingencies*, the Company recorded a liability in connection with claims where it is probable a loss will be incurred and where a reasonable estimate of that loss could be made.

For claims where a reasonable estimate of loss could not be made due to the uncertainty of the outcome of litigation or arbitration, the Company has not recorded a liability due to its inability to make a reasonable estimate of loss, in accordance with FASB ASC 450. The Company has nonetheless recorded an estimate for the defense costs of such claims. Further, these claims in which a reasonable estimate of loss could not be made due to the uncertainty of the outcome of litigation or arbitration may nonetheless be material.

The Company has also been involved in an enforcement investigation by FINRA since 2016 regarding the supervision of the sale and distribution of leveraged and inverse exchange-traded funds. During this time frame, FINRA has made several document and information requests with which the Company has cooperated with. On October 16, 2018, management received information from FINRA regarding the settlement of this potential enforcement action. After considering the facts, legal defenses, and strategies, as well as the costs associated with any defense, on November 30, 2018, the Company's management elected to agree in principle to the terms of a proposed acceptance, waiver, and consent with FINRA which includes a financial penalty of \$20,000. The Company has therefore recorded a loss in the amount of \$20,000.

As of December 31, 2018, the Company has recorded a loss contingency of \$180,921 in accounts payable and other liabilities for potential losses and costs associated with the defense of these customer claims and for the acceptance, waiver and consent with FINRA. The amount of the loss contingency is included in litigation and legal fees in the statement of income.

For unasserted claims that may occur against the Company, an estimate of loss cannot be reasonably made and none have been recorded.

## 5. Concentrations of Credit Risk

The Company maintains a majority of its cash balances in several accounts at NFS as well as two financial institutions located in Michigan and Missouri. The balances with the financial institutions are insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation ("FDIC") up to \$250,000. As of December 31, 2018, the Company had uninsured cash balances of \$3,133,328 with the financial institutions. The cash balances with NFS and other financial institutions are also not covered by the FDIC and the uninsured amounts are \$2,134,022 as of December 31, 2018.

#### 6. Guarantees and Indemnification

FASB ASC 460, *Guarantees*, requires the disclosure of representations and warranties which the Company enters into and which may provide general indemnifications to others. The Company, in its normal course of business, may enter into contracts that contain such representations and warranties.

Pursuant to the Clearing Agreement, NFS has the right to seek reimbursement from the Company for certain losses, account debit balances, and margin requirements that may result from customer transactions if the customer does not cover such losses, outstanding amounts due, or satisfy margin requirements. The Company's policy is to minimize the related off-balance-sheet risk and exposure through the use of a variety of exposure reporting and control procedures.

For application-way customer transactions, the Company has entered into Distribution Agreements with registered investment companies, insurance companies, and other investment providers. The Distribution Agreements commonly include indemnification provisions against the Company for certain losses incurred by the parties as a result of certain actions, breaches, errors, or omissions by the Company or its registered representatives.

The Company's maximum exposure under these arrangements is unknown, as this would involve future claims that may be made against the Company which have not yet occurred. However, based on its prior experience, the Company expects the risk of a material loss to be remote. As of December 31, 2018, there has not been a material reimbursement request received or outstanding.

#### 7. Net Capital Requirements

The Company is subject to the Uniform Net Capital Rule (Rule 15c3-1), pursuant to the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, which requires the maintenance of minimum net capital of \$250,000 or 6½ percent of aggregate indebtedness, whichever is greater, as these terms are defined in Rule 15c3-1. The Rule also requires that the ratio of aggregate indebtedness to net capital shall not exceed 15 to 1. As of December 31, 2018, the Company had net capital of \$4,257,151, an amount \$4,007,151 in excess of its required net capital of \$250,000. The Company's ratio of aggregate indebtedness to net capital was .70 to 1.

The Company claims exemption from the reserves and custody requirements of Exchange Act Rule 15c3-3 pursuant to section (k)(2)(i) and (k)(2)(ii) thereof. The Company introduces its customers' account and acts as a finder agent in the sale of general securities and mutual funds. Customer transactions are cleared through other broker-dealers on a fully disclosed basis and the Company does not hold funds or safeguard customer securities.

## 8. Subsequent Events

The Company has evaluated subsequent events for recognition or disclosure through the date these financial statements were issued.

## Parkland Securities, LLC Computation of Net Capital Under Rule 15c3-1 of the Securities and Exchange Commission December 31, 2018

Schedule I

Net capital	<b>AF FO4 40F</b>
Total member's equity qualified for net capital	\$5,531,465
Deductions and/or charges	
Total non-allowable assets	
Commission receivable	311,457
Receivable from representatives	31,703
Other receivables	117,242
Receivable from affiliates	588
Fixed assets	21,299
Other assets	791,754
Total non-allowable assets	1,274,043
Other deductions and/or charges	
Net capital before haircuts	4,257,422
Haircut on other securities	271
Net capital	\$4,257,151
Aggregate indebtedness	2,990,807
Computation of basic net capital requirements Pursuant to SEC Rule 15c3-1	
Minimum net capital required (6 2/3% of aggregate indebtedness) (A)	\$199,388
Minimum dollar net capital requirement (B)	250,000
Net capital requirement (greater of (A) or (B))	250,000
Excess net capital (net capital, less net capital requirement)	\$4,007,151
Net capital less greater of 10% of aggregate indebtedness or	
120% of minimum dollar net capital requirement	\$3,957,151
Ratio of aggregate indebtedness to net capital	.70 to 1

There are no material differences between the computation above and the computation included in the corresponding unaudited FOCUS Report, Part IIA Form X-17a-5 as of December 31, 2018.

Parkland Securities, LLC
Computation of Determination of Reserve Requirements and Information
Relating to Possession or Control Requirements Under Rule 15c3-3 of the
Securities and Exchange Commission
December 31, 2018
Schedule II

The Company claims exemption under section (k)(2)(i) and (k)(2)(ii) of Exchange Act Rule 15c3-3.



## Exemption Report For Year Ended December 31, 2018

We, as members of management of Parkland Securities, LLC (the "Company") are responsible for complying with 17 C.F.R. §240.17a-5, "Reports to be made by certain brokers and dealers" and for complying with 17 C.F.R. §240.15c3-3: (k)(2)(i) and (k)(2)(ii) (the "exemption provisions"). To the best of our knowledge and belief we state the following:

- 1. The Company claimed an exemption from 17 C.F.R. §240.15c3-3 under the following provisions of 17 C.F.R. §240.15c3-3: (k)(2)(i) and (k)(2)(ii), and
- 2. The Company met the identified exemption provisions throughout the period from January 1, 2018 to December 31, 2018, except as follows whereby certain customer checks were not transmitted by noon of the next business day following receipt.

In 81 instances customer checks were received at our branch offices, mailed to our Office of Supervisory Jurisdiction ("OSJ") for review and processing, and thereafter transmitted to our clearing firm no later than next business day following receipt at the OSJ, but later than noon of the next business day following the initial receipt in our branch offices. These exceptions are due to the two-business-day delay involved in sending customer checks from our branch offices to the OSJ via postal mail or courier service. Additionally, we identified 81 checks that inadvertently were not transmitted by noon of the next business day following receipt. The following is a month-by-month breakdown of these exceptions by percentage:

Month	Number of Checks	Percentage
January	14	8.64%
February	15	9.26%
March	16	9.88%
April	17	10.49%
May	11	6.79%
June	8	4.94%
. July	15	9.26%
August	10	6.17%
September	10	6.17%
October	19	11.73%
November	<b>11</b>	6.79%
December	<u> 16                                   </u>	9.88%
•	162	100.00%

Parkland Securities, LLC

Brandon Rydell

Chief Financial Officer

2/27/19 Date



**RSM US LLP** 

## Report of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm

To the Board of Directors and Member Parkland Securities, LLC

We have reviewed management's statements, included in the accompanying Exemption Report, in which (a) Parkland Securities, LLC (the Company) identified the following provisions of 17 C.F.R. § 240.15c3-3(k) under which the Company claimed an exemption from 17 C.F.R. § 240.15c3-3: paragraph (k)(2)(i) and (k)(2)(ii), (the exemption provisions) and (b) the Company stated that the Company met the identified exemption provisions throughout the most recent fiscal year except as described in its exemption report. The Company's management is responsible for compliance with the exemption provisions and its statements.

Our review was conducted in accordance with the standards of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States) and, accordingly, included inquiries and other required procedures to obtain evidence about the Company's compliance with the exemption provisions. A review is substantially less in scope than an examination, the objective of which is the expression of an opinion on management's statements. Accordingly, we do not express such an opinion.

Based on our review, we are not aware of any material modifications that should be made to management's statements referred to above for them to be fairly stated, in all material respects, based on the provisions set forth in paragraph (k)(2)(i) and (k)(2)(ii) of 17 C.F.R. § 240.15c3-3.

RSM US LLP

Chicago, Illinois February 28, 2019